

## **TIME RUNNING SHORT TO GET TAX FORMS**

WASHINGTON -- Taxpayers who need tax forms or publications should act soon to request them, the Internal Revenue Service advised today -- the April 15 filing deadline is less than four weeks away. In addition to providing materials at its local offices, the IRS makes forms available by mail, computer, or fax.

Taxpayers should allow up to 15 workdays for telephone orders to be processed. The IRS forms line -- 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676) -- is open from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

In addition to their usual weekday business hours, over 150 local IRS offices will be open Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. until mid-April. Taxpayers may pick up forms or publications, or meet with IRS assistants for answers to their tax questions.

Computer and fax machine users can get tax materials 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The IRS Web site -- [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov) -- has forms and publications available for downloading. IRS TaxFax -- at 703-368-9694 -- offers 144 forms and instructions by return fax. Users may find the order numbers in the tax instruction booklet, or may have the system fax a list of available items.

Many banks, post offices and public libraries also stock some of the common tax forms. Libraries may also have reproducible forms for photocopying, along with a reference set of IRS tax information publications.

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## 1998 FILING SEASON STATISTICS

Cumulative through the week ending 3/14/97 and 3/13/98

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<b>Individual Income Tax Returns</b> (electronic and paper)			
Total Receipts	50,678,000	50,732,000	0.1
Total Processed	38,249,000	41,142,000	7.6
<b>E-filing -- Total Receipts:</b>			
Standard E-file	11,570,000	14,199,000	22.7
TeleFile	3,663,000	4,597,000	25.5
<b>Refunds Certified by the Martinsburg Computing Center:</b>			
Number	35,007,000	37,418,000	6.9
Amount	\$48.131 billion	\$53.048 billion	10.2
Average Refund	\$1375	\$1418	3.1
<b>Direct Deposit Refunds:</b>			
Number	11,825,000	13,628,000	15.2
Amount	\$21.947 billion	\$25.723 billion	17.2